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1. General Observations

The new organizational setup of the Czechoslovak Army is basically different from the 1939 model and follows the lines of the Soviet Army. The cavalry has been broken up into four half-regiments and no longer stands as a separate branch; its place has been taken by the armored force. Major units (divisions, shock divisions, and brigades) are numbered consecutively without regard to their special nature. It appears that even tank brigades are numbered along with other units.

2. Territorial Organization

- a. The entire Czechoslovak Army is divided among four territorial commands known as "OV's" (Oblastní velitelství). Their headquarters are located in the following cities: OV 1, Prague; OV 2, Tábor; OV 3, Brno; OV 4, Bratislava.
- b. The commanding general of OV 3 is General Novák. He emerged from World War I as a colonel at the age of 26. He has commanded only artillery units and does not have a particularly broad military knowledge, especially in the direction of major units.
- c. The commanding general of OV 4 is General Širica, who is a mere figurehead and totally incapable of leading an army. Assigned to him for this reason is a very capable deputy, General Tallavanya.
- d. Every OV has one or two army corps under its direction. These are popularly known as "SV's" (sborové velitelství). The territorial distribution of these corps is as follows:

- 1) OV 1: SV I, headquarters at Litoměřice
SV II, headquarters at Hradec Králové
- 2) OV 2: SV III, headquarters at Plzeň
- 3) OV 3: SV IV, headquarters at Brno

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4) OV 4: SV V, headquarters at Trenčín

- e. In peacetime these corps do not have headquarters staffs in the ordinary sense of the word, but have amorphous groups of officers attached to them. No exact information is available on the organization of Czech Army corps.

3. Divisional Distribution

The divisions and brigades listed below are known to have their headquarters at the following places:

1st Infantry Div. (pěší divise)	České Budějovice
2nd Infantry Brigade (pěší brigáda)	Písek
3rd Shock Div. (rychlá divise)	Kroměříž or Olomouc
4th " " " "	Zlín
5th " " " "	Prague
6th Infantry Div. (pěší divise)	Brno
7th Infantry Brigade (pěší brigáda)	Nový Jičín
8th Shock Div. (rychlá divise)	Kolín
9th Infantry Div. (pěší divise)	Nitra
10th " " " "	Košice
11th " " " "	Plzeň
12th " " " "	Litoměřice
13th " " " "	Mladá Boleslav (?)
14th " " " "	Karlovy Vary

4. Organization of Infantry Shock Division Headquarters

- a. Commanding General : velitel divise
 Deputy CG : zástupce velitele divise
 Chief of Staff : náčelník štábu divise
 Staff sections : oddělení štábu
 Inspectorate (actually office of the political commissar) : správa osvěty
 Rear echelon : velitelství týlu
- b. Division headquarters are divided into the following sections:
- Staff Section 1 : Operations (operační oddělení)
 Staff Section 2 : Intelligence (zpravodajské odd.)
 Staff Section 3 : Communications (spořovací oddělení), which may not exist in peacetime
 Staff Section 4 : Organization and mobilization (organizační oddělení a mobilizační odd.)
 Staff Section 5 : Counter-intelligence (bezpečnostní zpravodajství - OBZ)
- c. The rear echelon consists of the divisional service branches (služby divise), which include: the medical section (sdravotní služba), the administrative section (intendanční), the veterinary section (veterinářská služba), the ordnance section (technozbrojní služba), the motor maintenance section (automob. služba), and the chaplains' section (duchovní služba). The division also has a special services office (pomocnýmír) and a supply section (hospodářská správa).

5. Organization of Infantry Division

A Czech infantry division consists of three infantry regiments (pesí pluk), an artillery regiment (dělostrelecký pluk), and a motorized anti-tank artillery

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regiment (dělostřelecký pluk), and a motorized anti-tank artillery battalion (motorisovaný protitankový dělostřelecký oddíl) with 72 mm. guns. An infantry division consists of no other units in peacetime. Service branches, tank units, etc. are maintained by the territorial commands (OV's) or corps (SV's).

6. Service Branches

a. The army engineers (ženiijní vojsko) consist of four brigades (ženiijní brigáda), one to a territorial command. The first brigade is located in Litoměřice; the location of the second brigade is unknown; the third is in Kroměříž; the fourth is distributed between Bratislava and Komarno. The exact composition of the engineer brigade is unknown, but it probably consists of three to four battalions (ženiijní prapory).

b. The Czech signal corps (spojovací vojsko) consists of five signal regiments (spojovací pluk) which are stationed in the following towns:

1st Signal Regiment	Benešov
2nd Signal Regiment	Jičín
3rd Signal Regiment	Brno
4th Signal Regiment	Trenčín
5th Signal Regiment	Pardubice, Kutná Hora, and Ruzyně

c. The 5th Signal Regiment has a special function: the training and assignment of personnel to various headquarters, especially the central headquarters with its message centers and outlying telegraph, telephone, teletype, and radio stations. In time of war, the 5th Regiment would organize the various signal units for the central headquarters and for the divisions and brigades of the army. [The teletype network of the army signal corps was in the main taken over from the German Wehrmacht. Most of the machines were manufactured by Siemens, but some Czech Tesla machines are gradually being put into operation. Difficulties in the procurement of metal from Austria have held up production.]

7. The Czech Air Force (letectvo)

a. This is a separate self-contained entity with its own general staff, the chief of which is Lieutenant General Vicherek. There are four air force divisions (letecké divize) with areas of responsibility corresponding to those of the four army territorial commands (OV's). The 1st Air Force Division has its headquarters in Prague; the location of the headquarters of the 2nd Division is unknown; the 3rd Division has its headquarters at Brno; and the 4th Division is at Trenčín. Aside from these, there is a depot (letecký park) at Nitra and a replacement regiment (letecký náhradní pluk) at Vysoke Myto. The latter fills all the mobilization and replacement needs of the regular units, so that these consist entirely of fighting personnel to the limits of the tables of organization. There is a lack, however, of fully-trained personnel, especially in the higher grades. Materiel is also in short supply.

b. There are no ranking air force officers at the territorial command headquarters (OV's); only one air force officer is attached to each OV in an advisory or liaison capacity. Air force regional commands (letecký okruh) have also been set up, but their function is not yet clear. It is known that Air Force Regional Command 3 (letecký okruh 3) is established at Bratislava and consists of administrative, meteorological, and motor maintenance sections. Command 3 may have some connection with the OV-4 headquarters at Bratislava, but if this is the case, it is peculiar that it should bear the designation "3" and not "4".

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- c. The construction of airfields is a function of the Ministry of Transport, which works with the advice of an Air Force specialist.
- d. Each air force division consists of three air force regiments (letecký pluk). The 4th Division, which is located at Trenčín under the command of Colonel Lisický, has been detailed the following subordinates: 1st Regiment (at Zvolen), 2nd Regiment (at Piešťany), and a third regiment with an unknown designation (at Vajnory).
- e. A Czech air force regiment is divided into a number of squadrons (letka) which are in turn divided into sub-units called "letecký roj" and consisting of perhaps five planes each. There are no formations corresponding to the American wing in the Czech Air Force.
- f. Airfields are located at the following places: Kbely, Ruzyně, Chrodim, Pardubice, Havlíčkův Brod, České Budějovice, Plzeň, Mimon, Brno, Prerov, Olomouc, Prostějov, Malacky, Vajnory, Tri Dubi, and Božidar. The Air Force headquarters at Prague have teletype connections with Kbely, Brno, and Trenčín, and all airfields have teletype contact with one or another of these three message centers. All fields in Bohemia are linked up with Kbely, in Moravia with Brno, and Slovakia with Trenčín. The air force firing ranges are located in Malacky.
- g. The Air Force Academy at Hradec Kralove gives a three-year training course. Flight officers and non-commissioned officers are graduated after two years. There is also a school for pilots at Sternberg which provides a two-year course. Practical work during the second year is undertaken at Olomouc airfield.
- h. [A radar station was put into operation at Kbely airfield on 1 January 1949. Similar stations will be set up at the other fields and will be operated by women with Soviet Army training. The radars were set up by the signal corps colonel, Engineer Teplý, who studied radar electronics in England during 1946. The apparatus is being built by Firma Tesla. It has also been reported that a "radar train" is standing in a siding at the Brno railway station. Its purpose is not known, but it is used for the testing of apparatus in various parts of the country.]
- i. A paratroop battalion (padákový prapor) consisting of infantry volunteers is stationed at Mimon.

8. The Czech Armored Force (tankové vojsko - tankisté)

This consists of one tank corps, the headquarters of which is at Olomouc. The corps is divided into four tank brigades. The headquarters of one brigade is at Sternberg; another is at Moravská Třebová; a third is at Turčanský Sv. Martin; and a fourth may possibly be at Milovice. Armored force units are stationed at Milovice, Sternberg, Moravská Třebová, Znojmo, Turčanský Sv. Martin, Hranice, Olomouc, and Vysoké Myto. Maneuver areas have been set up Milovice, Sternberg, and Turčanský Sv. Martin.

9. Cavalry (jezdecko)

This is no longer a separate branch of the army; individual cavalry units are subordinated to infantry commands. The element now consists of one brigade with a headquarters at Pardubice. This brigade is divided into four half-regiments, one of which is assigned to each territorial command (OV).

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10. Training Grounds

Armed maneuvers play an important part in the activities of the new Czech Army. Every soldier spends at least four months of his conscription period at one of the training grounds. These are located at Milovice, Mimon, Sangeberg, Boletice, Dedice, Pribram, Lest, and Malacky. All training grounds have teletype connections with the message center of the supreme headquarters of the Army in Prague XIX, President Benes Square, Building "B", ground floor.

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